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PATENT APPLICATION
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 72934

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) **MASUDA et al.**

Serial No.: **10/061,772**

Filing Date: **February 1, 2002**

Title: **OPTICAL FIBER AMPLIFIER
AND OPTICAL
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
USING THE SAME**

Group
Art Unit: **3662**

Examiner: **Mark Hellner**

Conf. No.: **2209**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

1/13/04 Kenneth H. Samples
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and §1.98 in connection with the above-identified application. Also enclosed herewith is PTO/SB/08A Substitute for Form PTO-1449 and copies of the references cited thereon.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.
EP 0 858 976 A2

Publication Date
8/19/98

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner accept and consider the above documents and make them of record in the above-captioned application. The reference in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in an Office Action dated October 30, 2003 by the European Patent Office in the counterpart application EP 02 25 0699.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(g-h), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be a representation that a search has been made or an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Date: 1/13/04

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Document at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.